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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Turkey

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Turkey was held at the 13th meeting on 27 January 2015. The delegation of Turkey was headed by Bülent Arınç, Deputy Prime Minister. At its 17th meeting, held on 29 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Turkey.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Turkey: Cuba, Gabon and Saudi Arabia.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Turkey:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/TUR/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were transmitted to Turkey through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation thanked, in advance, all countries that would make recommendations in a spirit of sincere cooperation. He expressed gratitude to all relevant governmental institutions and different stakeholders for their contributions, as they were consulted during the preparation process for the UPR. He emphasized that the protection and promotion of human rights was one of the political objectives of Turkey. The first pillar of measures had been directed towards eliminating the problems stemming from legislation. The second priority had been the establishment of new national human rights mechanisms.

6. The Constitutional amendments of 12 September 2010 had introduced positive discrimination in respect of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, had enhanced the protection of personal data and children's rights and had expanded the scope of the right to freedom of assembly and association. The judicial reform packages had introduced substantial legislative amendments to the Turkish Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Anti-Terror Law and the Press Law, with the aim of strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, enhancing its efficacy, facilitating access to justice, expanding the scope of freedoms and ensuring further improvements in freedom of expression.

7. The head of delegation acknowledged the advance written questions of some countries, and stated that the Democratization Package of September 2013 enabled political campaigning and propaganda, as well as education in private schools, in languages and dialects other than Turkish. The ban on women wearing headscarves in the public service had been lifted. Hate crime was included in the Turkish Penal Code and the penalty for the offence of discrimination and hatred had been increased. A comprehensive Anti-Discrimination and Equality Law had been drafted, the action plan on preventing violations of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms had entered into force on 1 March 2014, and the number of pending applications before the European Court of Human Rights against Turkey had been reduced considerably. On 27 September 2011, Turkey became a party to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and ratification was under way for the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), signed in 2009, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, signed on 24 September 2012.

8. Turkey's priority was institutionalization in the field of human rights. In 2010, the right of individual application to the Constitutional Court had been introduced, followed by a noteworthy body of case law.

9. The office of the Ombudsman had become operational in December 2012. A draft amendment its founding law had been prepared, with a view to ensuring the implementation of more recommendations and the settlement of complaints in a more effective way. In addition, the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) of Turkey had been established in 2012 in accordance with the criteria set out by the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles). Efforts were under way to enable the Institution to apply for accreditation. The NHRI was additionally designated as the national preventive mechanism to perform tasks under OP-CAT.

10. Legislative work was in progress for the establishment of a law enforcement oversight commission, which was to function independently from law enforcement bodies to examine and investigate allegations of ill-treatment made in respect of law enforcement officials. The Law on Ending Terrorism and Strengthening Social Integration had entered into force on 16 July 2014.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

11. During the interactive dialogue, 116 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

12. The United States of America expressed concern about restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly, and interference in the judiciary, among other things.

13. Uruguay urged Turkey to strengthen the NHRI and improve access to education, particularly by girls.

14. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the establishment of the NHRI.

15. Yemen commended achievements benefiting women and children and elderly and disabled members of society; it noted the adoption of various legislative amendments.

16. Zimbabwe noted the amended Constitution, the establishment of the NHRI, awareness-raising and training programmes and the extension of compulsory education to the age of 12.

17. Afghanistan welcomed the constitutional amendment package and commended the adoption of the law on the NHRI.

18. Albania commended the legislative and judicial reforms and noted the right of individuals to appeal to the Constitutional Court.

19. Angola appreciated Turkey's cooperation with international mechanisms in the field of freedoms and fundamental rights.

20. Argentina welcomed the adoption of a strategy and plan of action on children rights (2013–2017).

21. Armenia made recommendations.

22. Australia noted international and civil society concerns about the use of force in responding to political protests.

23. Austria made recommendations.

24. Azerbaijan welcomed the establishment of the Ombudsman and the NHRI and the contribution of Turkey to the dialogue among civilizations.

25. Bahrain welcomed the new syllabus on human rights and democracy in education, and efforts to combat human trafficking.

26. Qatar appreciated the establishment of human rights institutions, specifically the Ombudsman. It commended humanitarian assistance for Syrian refugees.

27. Belarus welcomed the improvement of the national legislation to align it with the international human rights obligations of Turkey.

28. Belgium inquired whether law enforcement officials were trained in conformity with the United Nations code of conduct for police.

29. Benin praised the implementation of the recommendations from the first UPR cycle and the initiatives in promoting human rights.

30. Bosnia and Herzegovina was interested in having further information on the National Plan of Action of Gender Equality.

31. Botswana noted the constitutional amendments granting fundamental freedoms, and the establishment of the NHRI.

32. Brazil encouraged accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, following its recommendation from the first UPR cycle.

33. Brunei Darussalam congratulated Turkey for its progress on the institutionalization of human rights and commended measures to promote gender equality.

34. Bulgaria expressed its appreciation for the establishment of the office of the Ombudsman, and the national preventive mechanism under OP-CAT. It welcomed the adoption of the judicial reform packages, and the restructuring of the Constitutional Court and the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors.

35. Canada applauded Turkey for being the first to sign and ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

36. Chad noted the improvement in the legal framework and the creation of institutions to reinforce institutional human rights guarantees.

37. Chile acknowledged institutional progress, but considered there were areas where implementation could be improved.

38. China commended Turkey's legislative and institutional reforms and efforts in fighting trafficking in persons.

39. Comoros appreciated the creation of independent appeal bodies for the benefit of the citizens.

40. The Congo welcomed legal and institutional human rights reforms, the combating of discrimination, the strengthening of the judiciary, and legal amendments on terrorism and regarding the press.

41. Costa Rica noted the strengthening of the judiciary to enhance its independence and capacity to protect human rights.

42. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the dialogue launched with civil society. It encouraged Turkey to strengthen measures to protect victims of domestic violence and violence at schools.

43. Croatia observed that the legislation on discrimination failed to protect against discrimination on all grounds. It noted that conscientious objection to military service was not recognized.

44. Cuba welcomed the efforts to guarantee the right to education and implement children's rights.

45. Cyprus regretted that its previous recommendations had been reflected in the subsequent report in the first cycle in a discriminatory manner.

46. The Czech Republic expressed appreciation for the response to some of its advance questions.

47. Denmark welcomed the setting up of a legal framework towards a solution regarding Kurds. It noted interference by the executive in the judiciary, a lack of transparency, and impunity.

48. Djibouti lauded the efforts to implement the six judicial reform packages since the first UPR.

49. Ecuador recognized the efforts to implement UPR recommendations, particularly those related to persons with disabilities.

50. The head of the delegation of Turkey stated that consultations were being conducted with representatives of the Alevi community to address their demands. Problems of Roma citizens regarding education, employment, housing, social policy and health had been discussed, and solution-oriented approaches had been adopted. The absence of specific provisions in respect of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons did not mean that their rights were not legally guaranteed. The necessary investigations were conducted into cases of killings of and acts of violence against LGBTI persons and all types of hate crimes, in order to identify perpetrators and bring them to justice. The legal process was conducted with diligence by the judicial authorities.

51. Minority rights in Turkey were regulated in accordance with the Treaty of Lausanne of 1923; only non-Muslim citizens were recognized as "minorities". No other definition of minority existed in Turkey. Turkish citizens belonging to non-Muslim minorities were entitled to the same rights and freedoms as other nationals on an individual basis, including having their own schools, places of worship, foundations, hospitals and media organizations. Any isolated anti-Semitic statements were condemned at the highest level, and the necessary judicial or administrative steps were taken. No restrictions whatsoever existed on the enjoyment of religious rights by non-Muslim citizens. Positive steps had been taken in the field of education and culture for non-Muslim citizens.

52. The head of the delegation, responding to an issue raised by the delegation of Armenia, said that claims and allegations of a blockade were unfounded and did not reflect the reality on the ground and were not related to human rights. Transit transportation between Armenia and third countries could be carried out through Georgia or the Islamic Republic of Iran and through Turkey, and there were direct flights between Turkey and Armenia. The previous week, upon the anniversary of the death of Hrant Dink, the Prime Minister had once again confirmed the importance that Turkey accorded that matter and the humanitarian approach that it had in that respect.

53. Turkey was taking the measures necessary to prevent the movement of citizens of third countries who attempted to use its territory to travel to third countries to join radical groups; source countries were also expected to take similar steps and cooperate with Turkey in that regard.

54. The delegation stated that there were 166 non-Muslim community foundations in Turkey. Regulations had been enacted to address the property issues of foundations belonging to different faith groups. Provisional article 11 had been introduced, on 27 August 2011, to the Law on Foundations No. 5737, whereupon the Foundations Council had decided to register 333 immovable properties in the name of the relevant foundation, and compensation for 21 immovable properties had been paid.

55. Egypt expressed concern about the deterioration in the human rights situation, especially regarding freedom of expression and assembly.

56. Equatorial Guinea noted with satisfaction measures taken in favour of minorities and women's participation in political life.

57. Estonia called upon Turkey to respect the right to peaceful assembly and association. It expressed hope that human rights defenders and journalists could work properly and without fearing prosecution.

58. Finland commended efforts to protect refugees, but noted that restrictions on media and dissenting voices had continued to increase.

59. France welcomed the Deputy Minister and his delegation.

60. Gabon congratulated Turkey for the constitutional amendment recognizing the principle of positive discrimination, the judicial reform, the mediator institution and the law on terrorism and social integration.

61. Germany welcomed developments regarding freedom of religion and belief, but was concerned by restrictions on peaceful assembly and freedom of expression.

62. Ghana applauded progress, but inquired about the removal of fundamental legal safeguards.

63. Greece made several recommendations.

64. Honduras acknowledged the efforts made since the first review.

65. Hungary welcomed legal reforms, the creation of the NHRI and measures recognizing minorities.

66. Iceland recognized Constitutional amendments but was concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression and about domestic violence.

67. India welcomed the judicial reform and democratization package, the Ombudsman and gender equality policies. It encouraged Turkey to enhance the equality of women, address discrimination against minorities and implement CRPD.

68. Indonesia welcomed legal and institutional reforms, the protection of children in conflict with the law and the fight against human trafficking, which could be strengthened.

69. Ireland expressed concern about restrictions on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

70. Israel noted the ongoing criminalization of non-violent dissenting speech and restrictions on access to information.

71. Italy welcomed efforts to promote dialogue among religions, and encouraged Turkey to continue to fight against child labour.

72. Japan commended Turkey for accepting large numbers of refugees from neighbouring countries, and encouraged further implementation of legislative reforms.

73. Jordan commended the sincere and ongoing efforts to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

74. Kazakhstan commended Turkey on its role in strengthening cooperation among all the countries belonging to the Turkic family, especially in the cultural sphere.

75. Kenya welcomed the recent establishment of the NHRI.

76. Kuwait commended Turkey on its commitment to implement previous UPR recommendations, which confirmed its commitment to human rights.

77. Kyrgyzstan noted that the NHRI was designated as the national preventive mechanism to perform tasks within the context of OP-CAT.

78. Lao People's Democratic Republic expressed appreciation for efforts to protect and safeguard the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.

79. Latvia commended efforts in raising girls' schooling rates and the provision of education services to refugees.

80. Lebanon expressed appreciation for the protection of basic rights and freedoms, as reflected in the creation of institutions and the passing of human rights-related legislation.

81. Lithuania welcomed positive steps towards the prevention of inequalities.

82. Luxembourg thanked Turkey for its efforts to help Syrian refugees.

83. Madagascar welcomed the establishment of the office of the Ombudsman in accordance with the Paris Principles.

84. Malaysia expressed appreciation for progress in women's rights, particularly through the establishment of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

85. Switzerland noted that serious and persisting problems prevailed in the field of human rights, in particular in relation to its recommendations from the first UPR.

86. Mauritania noted Turkey's cooperation with human rights mechanisms and its efforts to overcome difficulties.

87. Mauritius welcomed the introduction of compulsory education and the constitutional amendment providing for positive discrimination for children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

88. Mexico recognized legislative achievements and expressed appreciation for the efforts to enhance the independence of the judiciary.

89. Montenegro requested that Turkey elaborate on the measures taken to prevent early and forced marriages in an integrated manner.

90. Morocco welcomed the country's adhesion to OP-CAT, progress made on gender equality and the introduction in the Constitution of the concept of affirmative action.

91. Myanmar appreciated efforts in reviewing laws and regulations and bringing them into line with the country's international obligations and commitments.

92. Namibia noted the recognition of the principle of positive discrimination for women, children and disabled and elderly people, and the judicial reform packages.

93. The Netherlands called for further steps to be taken in the peace process with the Kurds, and expressed concern about the number of journalists prosecuted.

94. Nicaragua noted the constitutional reforms and democratization package undertaken by the Government.

95. The Niger noted the incorporation in the Constitution of, inter alia, the principle of affirmative action for women, children and disabled and elderly people, and the strengthening of the judicial and institutional frameworks.

96. Norway expressed concerns about reports of increased intervention in the media and about journalists' self-censorship.

97. In response to the Egyptian delegate, the head of the delegation underlined that Turkey was open to all constructive recommendations and criticism regarding the implementation of democracy, fundamental freedoms and, especially, human rights, since they are universal values. However the delegation wished to see such criticism and recommendations coming from parties who adhered to the same common universal values as Turkey did.

98. In Turkey, freedom of expression and the media were considered an indispensable part of democratic order. The offence of creating propaganda for terrorist organizations had been redefined and amended to reflect more concrete criteria for conviction. A working group had been set up in the Ministry of Justice for the identification of legal provisions that may impose restrictions on the freedom of expression. A complete pluralism existed in Turkey in respect of media organizations.

99. The head of the delegation clarified that the reasons for the detention of persons who were referred to as "detained journalists" were not related to their journalistic activities. As at 23 January 2015, a total of 31 such persons were in custody—29 convicted, 2 held on remand—on charges such as being a member of an armed terrorist organization, attempting to overthrow the constitutional order, voluntary manslaughter and embezzlement.

100. The head of the delegation stressed that the judiciary was independent from the legislative and executive powers. Detention on remand had ceased to be a widely used protective measure; the length of detentions and the detention rates in prisons had been dramatically reduced.

101. The delegation noted that the law on assemblies and demonstration marches had been amended to ensure public participation in the determination of venues and routes for assemblies. Tear gas weapons were used only by certified personnel. Concerning the events referred to as the Gezi park protests, the head of the delegation stated that the law enforcement officers had intervened within the bounds of the law and as necessary in a democratic society. In respect of allegations of excessive use of force by law enforcement officers, those responsible were brought to justice. As a result of administrative investigations, 149 personnel had been sanctioned. Regarding judicial proceedings, 329 investigations had been launched; 59 had resulted in non-prosecution, while a number of remaining files had resulted in public prosecution. Recently, two police officers had each been sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment. Other investigations were pending.

102. The delegation stated that electronic monitoring and enforcement in the residence via probation services were being used as alternative to imprisonment.

103. With the aim of preventing the riot police from using disproportionate force and of controlling individual mistakes, helmet devices had been procured and helmets now bore identification numbers. Furthermore, the Directive for Procedures and Principles on Actions of Police Forces Commissioned for Riot Control for Assemblies and Demonstration Marches and the Circular on Tear Gas Weapons and Ammunition had been issued.

104. Within the framework of the zero-tolerance policy for torture and ill-treatment, all relevant departments, including detention rooms, were being monitored by cameras and the records were being kept for 30 days. The number of judicial and disciplinary decisions on "overstepping the use of force" and "torture crimes" had recently decreased as a result of the measures taken.

105. Certain delegations had raised the issue of Cyprus. The position of Turkey on that issue was well known, and that Turkey did not need to repeat its position at that time, nor was it the right place to speak of the realities regarding the creation and perpetuation of the Cyprus conflict.

106. Oman lauded particular achievements regarding women and children, especially the right to education and girls' school enrolment.

107. Pakistan welcomed the constitutional amendment for positive discrimination and the law on prevention of violence against women.

108. Panama congratulated Turkey for its ratification of OP-CAT, and urged it to ratify the optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to CRPD.

109. The Philippines asked about Turkey's plans to strengthen its capacity to ensure that labour laws protecting migrant workers were implemented.

110. Poland acknowledged positive developments towards gender equality and combating domestic violence.

111. Portugal welcomed the adoption of the National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women.

112. Bangladesh noted reform processes, legal and institutional measures and training for public officials.

113. The Republic of Korea commended Turkey on its constitutional reforms and on measures taken under the judicial reform packages, such as the democratization package.

114. The Republic of Moldova welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Compensation Commission and steps taken to combat human trafficking, and asked whether Turkey envisaged ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

115. Romania noted the establishment of the national preventive mechanism for prevention of torture, and the efforts to fight trafficking in persons.

116. The Russian Federation welcomed judicial reforms, the adoption of the anti-terrorism law, the strengthening of social integration, the establishment of the Ombudsman, and the possibility for individuals to submit complaints to the Constitutional Court.

117. Rwanda took positive note of the adoption of the National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women and the establishment of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

118. Senegal welcomed the new Constitution, the Criminal Code amendment, the democratization package, the NHRI and the OP-CAT ratification.

119. Serbia encouraged Turkey to continue its efforts towards gender equality in social, political and economic spheres of influence.

120. Sierra Leone expressed concern about reports of police impunity. It urged Turkey to ensure the independence of the judiciary and to promote interreligious integration.

121. Singapore commended Turkey for carrying out wide-ranging legal reforms, and welcomed the emphasis placed on equality and non-discrimination in the Constitution.

122. Slovakia commended the introduction of the right to file individual complaints before the Constitutional Court.

123. Slovenia commended the open-door policy towards Syrian refugees, and noted that gender equality challenges remained.

124. Somalia commended Turkey on ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

125. South Sudan welcomed the generosity, solidarity and protection provided to Syrian refugees.

126. Spain welcomed the ratification of OP-CAT, and expressed concerns about restrictions on freedom of opinion, association and assembly.

127. Sri Lanka commended the approach taken in the advancement of the family as a cohesive unit.

128. The State of Palestine commended efforts to combat discrimination and strengthen human rights, particularly in terms of accessible education and curriculum reform.

129. The Sudan welcomed measures to improve human rights protections focused on women, children and persons with disabilities, and commended the Constitutional amendments of 2010.

130. Sweden recognized the strengthening of the protection of freedom of expression, but noted that authorities encouraged self-censorship.

131. Maldives recognized efforts to combat violence against women and honour crimes, and encouraged Turkey to enhance efforts to improve the quality of education.

132. The Syrian Arab Republic questioned the aims of Turkey's open borders and temporary protection and the application of the anti-terrorism law.

133. Tajikistan welcomed the effective application and strengthening of the legal frameworks related to human rights, and judicial reforms.

134. Thailand welcomed the adoption of the democratization package in 2013, which enhanced the rights of minorities.

135. Timor-Leste noted the protection against child labour, but remained concerned about violence against women, despite progress on women's rights.

136. Togo commended the comprehensive legal and political human rights reform.

137. Tunisia noted the legal human rights reforms and protection of women against violence and discrimination. It encouraged Turkey to ratify pending treaties and align the NHRI with the Paris Principles.

138. Turkmenistan noted the judicial reform packages, aimed at strengthening the independence of the judiciary and facilitating access to justice.

139. Ukraine commended efforts to implement UPR recommendations and the judicial reform package adopted by Parliament.

140. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed steps to address Kurdish issues, and was concerned by restrictions on freedom of assembly and expression.

141. Algeria praised the revision of the Constitution and the establishment of a number of institutions to strengthen human rights.

142. The head of the delegation underlined that equality between women and men before the law was one of the basic principles of the Turkish Constitution. A new definition had been introduced in the Constitution through an amendment in 2010, which allowed for positive discrimination for women. Turkey had been the first to sign and ratify the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention; Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women had been put into force with provisions compatible with the Convention. The National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women had been updated for the period 2012–2015. Turkey considered honour killings abhorrent violations of human rights which could not be justified on social, cultural or religious grounds. The Turkish Penal Code penalized honour killings with aggravated life imprisonment.

143. The Law on Persons with Disabilities had been revised in accordance with the approach of and the obligations envisaged in CRPD. Improvements had been made in schools for children with disabilities. Turkey had signed ILO conventions No. 167 and No. 176 in 2014. Both conventions were at the final stage of ratification.

144. The Law on Foreigners and International Protection had entered into force on 11 April 2014, and the principle of non-refoulement had gained legal basis. The procedure relating to humanitarian residence permit and subsidiary protection mechanisms had been defined, and "temporary protection" to be provided in cases of massive influx had been codified for the first time. Work on drafting the law on the prevention of human trafficking and protection of victims was under way.

145. The delegation highlighted that the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on the Rights of the Child 2013–2017 was focused on keeping girls in the education system, with an aim to prevent early marriages. The illiteracy rate of women and girls in Turkey had been decreasing for the past decade. Turkey had ratified the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182). The National Strategy Document and Action Plan included key measures on the prevention of child labour.

146. Turkey was a safe harbour for more than 1.6 million Syrians. With others, the figure reached 2 million. In conformity with its international obligations, Turkey had pursued an open-door policy for all Syrians and Iraqis who had to flee the conflicts in their countries during the past four years. The amount disbursed for its humanitarian response had reached US$ 5 billion, whereas total bilateral and multilateral support had remained at US$ 300 million. In response to certain allegations, the delegation stated that accusing Turkey of mistreating Syrians or not doing its share in addressing their needs was equal to failing to acknowledge the huge burden on and the great sacrifices made by Turkey.

147. The head of delegation thanked everyone who attended the UPR review of Turkey; the questions asked and recommendations made during the session had been noted and would be considered with diligence.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

148. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Turkey and enjoy its support:**

148.1. **Pursue its policy in acceding to international and regional conventions and mechanisms on human rights and freedoms (Kuwait);**

148.2. **Continue the consideration of its accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Hungary);**

148.3. **Ratify swiftly the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);**

148.4. **Accelerate the ratification processes of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, which it signed in 2009 and 2012, respectively (Zimbabwe);**

148.5. **Further fulfil the internationally taken obligations as well as implement the ratified international treaties (Kazakhstan);**

148.6. **Continue with the fundamental legislative amendments related to human rights (Kuwait);**

148.7. **Continue its efforts in its legal reform process to further promote and protect human rights in the country (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

148.8. **Continue to align its national legislation with international human rights instruments to which it is a State party (Nicaragua);**

148.9. **Continue the process of enacting new laws that will ensure that the rights and freedoms granted under its amended constitution can be fully enjoyed by its people (Philippines);**

148.10. **Adopt a law against different types of discrimination and for equality in the public and private sector, and the monitoring of complaints (Albania);**

148.11. **Speed up the finalisation of the draft law on combating human trafficking and the protection of victims (Bahrain);**

148.12. **Adopt the Act on the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims (Kyrgyzstan);**

148.13. **Promote amendments in the current laws to envisage the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of violence against women, in particular domestic violence (Panama);**

148.14. **Continue its efforts to ensure that the national laws protect freedom of expression online and offline (Latvia);**

148.15. **Continue its efforts to adopt the law on Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims (Sudan);**

148.16. **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law and effectively implement it (Czech Republic);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

148.17. **Continue adopting comprehensive legislation to combat discrimination, including against women (State of Palestine);**

148.18. **Accelerate the adoption of the draft laws on Equality and Anti-discrimination and the Enforcement Monitoring Bodies (Lithuania);**

148.19. **Expedite the completion, and followed by the enactment of, the draft "Law on the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims" (Indonesia);**

148.20. **Establish the National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles (Nicaragua);**

148.21. **Undertake the necessary measures to obtain the "A" accreditation for the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Institution (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

148.22. **Consider applying for an "A" status accreditation of the National Human Rights Institution (Hungary);**

148.23. **Strengthen the National Human Rights Institution in order to ensure its independence and effectiveness in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile);**

148.24. **Implement all necessary measures in order to ensure that its national human rights body is in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Comoros);**

148.25. **Take necessary measures to ensure that the National Human Rights Institution is brought into compliance with the Paris Principles (Kenya);**

148.26. **Further strengthen the capacities of the Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles (Niger);**

148.27. **Continue its efforts to develop training programs within the framework of the project entitled "Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights" (Yemen);**

148.28. **Undertake further measures in accordance with the "National Strategy on Children's Rights and its Action Plan" in order to ensure the rights of the children and combat early marriage (Albania);**

148.29. **Intensify its efforts to implement the National Action Plan for Gender Equality for 2013–2015 (Equatorial Guinea);**

148.30. **Continue further improvement of the promotion and protection of human rights in the country (Azerbaijan);**

148.31. **Continue the efforts to set up the independent committee to monitor the implementation of laws (Qatar);**

148.32. **Strengthen internal mechanisms for the implementation of OP-CAT (Spain);**

148.33. **Strengthen the various monitoring mechanisms established for effective enforcement of the new legislations and action plans, in particular those targeting the inclusion of the most marginalized segments of the population (Mauritius);**

148.34. **Accelerate the process of adopting the National Strategy and Plan of Action on Violence against Children (Benin);**

148.35. **Continue its efforts for proper implementation of the constitutional reforms concerning the protection of children and older persons (Ecuador);**

148.36. **Renew its commitment to a comprehensive reform of legislation aimed at guaranteeing the rule of law, the freedom of thought, religion, expression and of the media, in compliance with international standards (Italy);**

148.37. **Continue developing the institutional framework with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights (Jordan);**

148.38. **Continue its efforts to strengthen the framework for the protection and promotion of human rights (Kazakhstan);**

148.39. **Continue to work to fully secure the rights of the child (Russian Federation);**

148.40. **Continue its policies in improving women's rights (Jordan);**

148.41. **Step up efforts to prevent organised crime networks (Lebanon);**

148.42. **Further strengthen the work of the Committee for the Prevention of Early and Enforced Marriages (Myanmar);**

148.43. **Adopt the draft National Strategy and Action Plan on Violence against Children (Bangladesh);**

148.44. **Continue implementing the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Children's Rights (Myanmar);**

148.45. **Continue to implement Democratization Package 2013 (Pakistan);**

148.46. **Pursue the development of enforcement mechanisms so that the National Action Plan for Combating Domestic Violence against Women is consistently implemented (Portugal);**

148.47. **Continue efforts for gender equality in the context of the National Plan of Action of Gender Equality (Algeria);**

148.48. **Complete the work towards the establishment of a national strategy on combating violence against children (Somalia);**

148.49. **Continue the implementation of the National Strategy and Plan of Action for the Rights of the Child (Algeria);**

148.50. **Continue its efforts in the area of human rights training, particularly for staff of penitentiary establishments (Senegal);**

148.51. **Strengthen publicity campaigns on the non-acceptability of any human rights violations (Tajikistan);**

148.52. **Continue active cooperation with human rights mechanisms (Azerbaijan);**

148.53. **Further strengthen its international human rights commitments to the principle of cooperation and dialogue with the United Nations human rights mechanisms (Kazakhstan);**

148.54. **Continue its cooperation with the United Nations, other international organizations and human rights mechanisms to overcome remaining constraints and challenges (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

148.55. **Step up cooperation with the special procedures mandate holders by responding positively to the pending visit requests (Latvia);**

148.56. **Continue to ensure the equality of all its citizens, in particular the minorities, through fair legislative and regulatory means (Singapore);**

148.57. **Continue its commendable efforts to empower women in social, political, economic and public life, including by continuing its positive measures to improve women's employment (Malaysia);**

148.58. **Continue to work on the protection of women's rights and the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Securing Gender Equality. (Russian Federation);**

148.59. **Allocate adequate resources to implement its policies and programmes aimed at ensuring that equality between men and women are realized in practice (Philippines);**

148.60. **Take further measures on anti-discrimination and equality to address gender stereotypes and discriminatory practices that fuel domestic gender-based violence (Ukraine);**

148.61. **Take necessary measures, in putting law into practice, to further ensure the implementation on gender equality (Sweden);**

148.62. **Continue with the efforts to improve the status of women, including measures for gender equality at all levels in society, with a view to enhancing their contribution to the national development processes (Sri Lanka);**

148.63. **Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of women's rights through the implementation of the various national action plans (Brunei Darussalam);**

148.64. **Implement the National Action Plan for Gender Equality, in particular on the enhancement and awareness of the gender equality in different fields such as education, public life, employment and health (Albania);**

148.65. **Continue taking temporary special measures to accelerate the improvement of the situation of women (Togo);**

148.66. **Strengthen the actions taken to combat discrimination against women in all areas (Ecuador);**

148.67. **Exert concrete efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Republic of Korea);**

148.68. **Take necessary measures to ensure gender equality in all spheres, and ensure women's protection against domestic violence (Honduras);**

148.69. **Strengthen measures to guarantee gender equality as well as actions to prevent violence against women (Côte d'Ivoire);**

148.70. **Continue its efforts for empowering women to better improve their participation at the decision-making level (Myanmar);**

148.71. **Strengthen gender equality policies, particularly the promotion of employment of women in all fields (Angola);**

148.72. **Accelerate efforts to increase the number of women in public life and to eliminate and prevent violence against women (Austria);**

148.73. **Continue to combat violence against women and ensure gender equality (Pakistan);**

148.74. **Continue efforts to promote the rights of women and combat violence against them (Morocco);**

148.75. **Make available all the necessary needs to guarantee the success of the National Plan of Action of Gender Equality 2015–2020 (Qatar);**

148.76. **Continue its efforts to promote the rights of women by providing them access to posts of responsibilities (Benin);**

148.77. **Vigorously pursue reforms towards redressing gender inequalities in secondary schools (Djibouti);**

148.78. **End the two-year regulatory gap and promulgate new electoral regulations so that Turkish citizens belonging to non-Muslim communities be able to manage their charitable foundations (Greece);**

148.79. **Additional steps be put in place to protect women's rights more effectively in rural areas in particular (Japan);**

148.80. **Carry on the efforts for the empowerment of women and provide employment opportunities for women (Oman);**

148.81. **Carry on intensifying programs and activities aiming at raising human rights awareness (Oman);**

148.82. **Step up efforts to prevent violence against children (Belarus);**

148.83. **Better identify and assist trafficking victims and implement systematic training for government officials on human trafficking crimes, gender-based violence, and gender equality (United States of America);**

148.84. **Continue combating human trafficking (Senegal);**

148.85. **Take concrete actions to fight against human trafficking and illegal migrants, to implement international obligations and defend normal order of international migration (China);**

148.86. **Adopt legal measures to prevent child labour and trafficking accompanied by effective monitoring mechanisms (Montenegro);**

148.87. **Take measures in law and in practice to decrease child labour, most notably regarding hazardous work (Sweden);**

148.88. **Adopt additional measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and bring the minimum age of access to employment into line with international standards (Togo);**

148.89. **Continue taking steps to prevent violence against children, child labour and trafficking (Ukraine);**

148.90. **Pursue measures targeted at preventing trafficking in human beings and ensuring effective protection to victims, including by adopting a comprehensive anti-trafficking law (Republic of Moldova);**

148.91. **Pursue efforts to combat human trafficking and adopt a law to prevent this phenomenon and protect victims as soon as possible (Lebanon);**

148.92. **Redouble its efforts to combat trafficking in persons and protect its victims, in particular children (Honduras);**

148.93. **Intensify efforts to combat trafficking in persons and prosecute perpetrators (Sierra Leone);**

148.94. **Explore further steps with a view to strengthening domestic measures to combat human trafficking and child labour (Sri Lanka);**

148.95. **Continue to combat all forms of violence against women (Belarus);**

148.96. **Strengthen the implementation effectiveness of Turkey's 2012 domestic law on preventing violence against women (Iceland);**

148.97. **Continue its effort in combating violence against women, especially domestic violence, by effectively enforcing its law and undertaking necessary legislative review, and ensure the protection of the rights of the victims (Thailand);**

148.98. **Design long-term strategy and awareness-raising programmes to eliminate harmful practices such as domestic violence and early marriages in particular (Lithuania);**

148.99. **Take measures in law and in practice to decrease child marriage, most notably among girls (Sweden);**

148.100. **Strengthen efforts to eliminate child, early and forced marriage (Maldives);**

148.101. **Continue its efforts on the prevention of violence against women (Somalia);**

148.102. **Pursue the implementation of effective measures to protect women and children against domestic violence and ill-treatment in all its forms (Luxembourg);**

148.103. **In accordance with the Action Plan for Children's Rights (2013–2017), apply legal and administrative measures to effectively prevent early marriages (Equatorial Guinea);**

148.104. **Increase measures to provide judges with continuous training on the areas of principles, jurisprudence and international human rights principles, in line with the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (Chile);**

148.105. **Pursue its work on reforms with a view to ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and provide judges with adequate human rights training (Slovakia);**

148.106. **Foster an independent judiciary and consult with civil society, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Venice Commission on any judicial reform (United States of America);**

148.107. **Continue to take steps to strengthen the rule of law by ensuring the effective implementation of legal reforms (Singapore);**

148.108. **Continue strengthening the steps taken to ensure the protection of children in conflict with the law, including considering adopting restorative justice principles (Indonesia);**

148.109. **Step up efforts to combat impunity and carry out rapid, impartial, effective and in depth inquiries for all past or present allegations of human rights violations committed by security forces and ensure that such violations do not remain unpunished (Switzerland);**

148.110. **Pursue the process already undertaken of children's civil registration (Equatorial Guinea);**

148.111. **Ensure effective implementation of its domestic laws on the protection of the family and prevention of violence against women and children (Israel);**

148.112. **Implement effectively the Law to Protect Family and Prevent Violence against Women (Italy);**

148.113. **Continue strengthening the family and family values, including by protecting and ensuring the welfare of the family members, particularly children (Malaysia);**

148.114. **Continue dialogue among faith groups to strengthen and consolidate the spirit of co-existence (South Sudan);**

148.115. **Continue efforts to strengthen freedom of expression and belief (Lebanon);**

148.116. **Take measures to ensure full enjoyment of freedom of expression, particularly freedom of the press, and bring to an end the restrictions on internet access (Luxembourg);**

148.117. **Strengthen protection of the freedom of expression by allowing discourse and greater access to information, both online and offline, and ensure the penal code and anti-terror laws are consistent with international obligations (United States of America);**

148.118. **Guarantee the right to freedom of expression, online and offline, to fully ensure that journalists can pursue their profession without harassment and fear of reprisals, and review its legislation to bring it in line with international human rights standards (Austria);**

148.119. **Limit the provisions on restrictions of freedom of expression in conformity with the international standards (France);**

148.120. **Guarantee the right to freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, association and peaceful assembly and align its legislation with its obligations and commitments based on relevant international law (Switzerland);**

148.121. **Take steps to ensure she upholds her international obligations on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

148.122. **Take measures to further ensure the independence and freedom of the media (Sweden);**

148.123. **Strengthen freedom of assembly and expression, ensuring adequate access to internet (Costa Rica);**

148.124. **Strengthen measures to ensure the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression (Botswana);**

148.125. **Continue to modify and implement its legislation on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly and association in order to fully meet its international human rights obligations by, inter alia, simplifying notification requirements for planned demonstrations in the spirit of peaceful freedom of assembly (Finland);**

148.126. **Continue the measures in favour of different religious groups for the exercise of freedom of religion and conscience (Angola);**

148.127. **Make efforts aimed at broadening the scope of application of freedom of expression (Angola);**

148.128. **Ensure that civil society actors, including marginalized groups like those representing LGBT persons, are included in the implementation and follow-up of human rights obligations, including UPR recommendations (Norway);**

148.129. **Increase the representation of women in decision-making positions (Rwanda);**

148.130. **Apply comprehensively the practice of implementing human rights monitoring at the national level through direct communication with the population (Tajikistan);**

148.131. **Contribute to the social integration of the rural populations by actively engaging them in all spheres of activity (Tajikistan);**

148.132. **Increase the number of labour inspectors, especially in the rural provinces (Italy);**

148.133. **Establish a national action plan aimed at reinforcing the participation of women in the labor market (Luxembourg);**

148.134. **Continue taking measures to uplift education, particularly in rural areas, and increase the enrolment in schools in these regions (State of Palestine);**

148.135. **Continue strengthening its successful national education policy, with a view to achieve full school inclusion at all levels, so as to advance towards greater social welfare for its people (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

148.136. **Continue taking the necessary measures to keep girls in schools, and guarantee that they continue their official and higher education (Bahrain);**

148.137. **Continue its efforts to promote school attendance and to eliminate child labour, particularly in rural areas (Japan);**

148.138. **Take further measures to promote education in rural areas (Bangladesh);**

148.139. **Continue to implement the necessary measures to ensure the right to education for all citizens (Cuba);**

148.140. **Strengthen efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, especially focusing on the implementation of CRPD (Maldives);**

148.141. **Continue to develop inclusive education for the sake of children with disabilities (Belarus);**

148.142. **Maintain the commitment to increasingly support the rights of persons with disabilities (Cuba);**

148.143. **Establish a mechanism for monitoring public policies that protect the rights of persons with disabilities, especially in the areas of education, health and employment (Mexico);**

148.144. **Strengthen participation by persons with disabilities in social life (Morocco);**

148.145. **Intensify the inclusion and integration of children with disabilities into the society and the education system (Panama);**

148.146. **Reinforce efforts aimed at safeguarding rights of persons with disabilities, including guaranteeing their access to inclusive education (Ukraine);**

148.147. **Take necessary measures to eradicate difficulties facing persons with disabilities in exercising their rights and improve their access to public places, services and social security benefits (Republic of Korea);**

148.148. **Continue to address the inequalities affecting particularly the Roma community (Slovakia);**

148.149. **Continue to strengthen the protection of vulnerable groups, such as disabled children and Roma in less developed cities and rural areas (China);**

148.150. **Continue efforts to efficiently combat discrimination against non-Muslim minorities (Togo);**

148.151. **Reopen the Greek minority high school on Imvros island (Greece);**

148.152. **Tackle the ongoing issues of irregular migrants and seriously prosecute traffickers who prey on and take advantage of those vulnerable persons (Thailand);**

148.153. **Continue providing generous support to the Syrian refugees in Turkey (Djibouti).**

149. **The following recommendations enjoy the support of Turkey, which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:**

149.1. **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);**

149.2. **Fully implement the international obligations emanating from the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);**

149.3. **Guarantee full implementation of all European Court of Human Rights rulings within an adequate time frame (Germany);**

149.4. **Comply with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights concerning the rights of the Greek citizens to inherit immovable property in Turkey (Greece);**

149.5. **Comply with international treaties and standards for the full enjoyment of the rights of members of non-Muslim communities and their institutions (Greece);**

149.6. **Criminalize domestic violence (Timor-Leste);**

149.7. **Enforce legislation criminalising gender-based violence and prosecute all cases of violence against women (Sierra Leone);**

149.8. **Set up a national mechanism for preventing torture (France);**

149.9. **Implement article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights and abolish all legal or other restrictions for the release of sick or terminally sick inmates (Germany);**

149.10. **Implement the provisions of the six "Judicial Reform Packages" encompassing various rights and freedoms, in particular the freedom of expression and the media online and offline (Hungary);**

149.11. **Bring the laws regulating the use of force by law enforcement officers in line with international standards, particularly taking into account components of proportionality and necessity; to create an independent oversight mechanism with respect to complaints against criminal conduct by the police (Lithuania);**

149.12. **Monitor and report on the compliance with the recommendations put forward by the special rapporteurs on the independence of judges and lawyers, on migrants and on extrajudicial executions (Mexico);**

149.13. **Promote the adoption of measures to combat discrimination against women and promote gender equality (Panama);**

149.14. **Implement a national plan of action that would abolish discrimination against women, which is fostered by gender inequality (Serbia);**

149.15. **End all limitations on participation of non-Muslim Turkish citizens in the organized life of their communities and enjoyment of their cultural and religious heritage (Greece);**

149.16. **Consider the adoption of the specific legislation prohibiting all forms of corporal punishment of children (Poland);**

149.17. **Prohibit all forms of violence against children, including corporal punishment (Slovenia);**

149.18. **Strengthen measures to combat violence against women, including through the effective implementation of existing legislation and the National Action Plan (Brazil);**

149.19. **Criminalise child marriage (Sierra Leone);**

149.20. **Take, as soon as possible, the necessary legislative and political measures to end early and forced marriages (Belgium);**

149.21. **Consider the establishment of budgetary allotments to improve the conditions of the prison population (Mexico);**

149.22. **Guarantee full independence of the judiciary (Luxembourg);**

149.23. **All areas of the judiciary be completely independent from the executive (Denmark);**

149.24. **Protect the judiciary against all interference from bodies belonging to other branches of government (Switzerland);**

149.25. **Take steps to ensure the total independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Namibia);**

149.26. **Ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Uruguay);**

149.27. **Conduct effective investigation on the case of murder of Hrant Dink, Editor-in-Chief of the Turkish language Armenian weekly "Agos" (Armenia);**

149.28. **Address concerns about increasing interference by the executive in the judiciary (Australia);**

149.29. **Guarantee an independent and impartial judiciary, including by refraining from undue interference by the executive (Austria);**

149.30. **Establish a truly independent mechanism to investigate complaints of police violence and provide it with the necessary financial and administrative resources to make it effective and transparent to prosecute the perpetrators and compensate victims (Belgium);**

149.31. **Investigate allegations of torture and excessive use of force and take appropriate measures to punish perpetrators (Botswana);**

149.32. **Ensure the investigation, prosecution and punishment of any act of discrimination or violence motivated by the victim's sexual orientation or gender identity (Slovenia);**

149.33. **Take all necessary measures to solve the problems of non-Muslim minorities caused by the closing of the Halki seminary (Greece);**

149.34. **Refrain from censoring social and conventional media and ensure that freedom of expression is safeguarded in all forms, including the arts (Norway);**

149.35. **Respect the right to freedom of assembly as well as to carry out investigations into excessive use of force by security forces against peaceful protesters (Austria);**

149.36. **Guarantee freedom of assembly and association, including by protecting protestors from ill-treatment and by investigating allegations of abuse by officials promptly, thoroughly and independently (Germany);**

149.37. **Guarantee freedom of expression to all media, particularly to journalists (France);**

149.38. **Revise the practice of excessive use of force to dissolve crowds and protect its inhabitants' rights to freedom of assembly and of association (Norway);**

149.39. **Facilitate holding peaceful protests, protect all peaceful demonstrators from violence and arbitrary arrest and fight impunity for the use of excessive force against protestors by law-enforcement personnel (Czech Republic);**

149.40. **Implement the policy of return of the confiscated properties to the Armenians and other religious minorities, such as places of worship, including monasteries, church properties and religious and cultural sites through close consultations with their legal owners (Armenia);**

149.41. **Guarantee freedom of peaceful assembly (France);**

149.42. **Reaffirm its commitment to freedom of assembly, a proportional and legitimate response to protest activity, and to a free media (Australia);**

149.43. **Take into consideration the views of the civil society and respect European Union standards when elaborating the security law package (France);**

149.44. **Ensure in practice that all women are able to exercise their legal right to a safe abortion, without discrimination of any kind (Slovenia);**

149.45. **Take appropriate measures to provide school education to refugee children and to avoid discrimination of non-camp refugee children (Italy);**

149.46. **Prevent use of its territory by foreign terrorist fighters who are engaged in massive human rights violations (Armenia).**

150. **The following recommendations will be examined by Turkey, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council, taking place in June and July 2015:**

150.1. **Ratify the international instruments that have not been ratified yet (Côte d'Ivoire);**

150.2. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and harmonise its national legislation with it, including the integration of the provisions to fully cooperate with the Court, and to investigate and prosecute genocide, crimes against humanity and crimes of war before their national courts (Madagascar);**

150.3. **Accede to and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia);**

150.4. **Accede to the statute of the International Criminal Court and ratify the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions (Honduras);**

150.5. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC (France); Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC (Uruguay); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Timor-Leste); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Poland); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Portugal); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Luxembourg); Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Ghana);**

150.6. **Accede to and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the ICC (Latvia);**

150.7. **Accede to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the ICC (Madagascar);**

150.8. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC and implement it fully at national level and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Slovakia);**

150.9. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay);**

150.10. **Consider ratifying ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines);**

150.11. **Abolish any statutory limits on crimes by government officials, like torture, extrajudicial killings, and disappearances, both in respect to legal investigations as well as prosecutions (Netherlands);**

150.12. **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a clear definition of discrimination against women (Iceland);**

150.13. **Amend the provisions on libel and defamation so that they cannot be abused to prosecute human rights defenders and journalists (Czech Republic);**

150.14. **Amend Law No. 5651, widely known as the Internet Law, to ensure the right to seek, receive, and impart information in the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression (Canada);**

150.15. **Amend article 26 of the Constitution to ensure that the permissible grounds for restricting the right to freedom of expression are consistent with international human rights norms (Spain);**

150.16. **Favourably consider revising the new Internet Law in order for its citizens to enjoy better access to the Internet thereby further ensuring their right to freedom of expression and opinion (Republic of Korea);**

150.17. **Amend the Internet Law in order to guarantee the free exercise of freedom of expression, among others, by ensuring that the Telecommunications Authority cannot block websites without judicial authorization (Spain);**

150.18. **Repeal those provisions of the Criminal Code which unfairly limit freedom of expression, including articles 301, 318, 215 and 125, to bring the law in line with international standards on freedom of expression (Ireland);**

150.19. **Bring relevant provisions of the Criminal Code in line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) repealing the restrictions of freedom of expression (Lithuania);**

150.20. **Fully align the Internet law with international and European standards (Iceland);**

150.21. **Revise the Internet Law so that the powers of the authorities to block or remove the Internet content are exercised strictly in line with international standards on the right to freedom of expression and ensure that the internet can serve as a platform for free exchange of information, including dissenting views (Czech Republic);**

150.22. **Reform the law on counter-terrorism in order to prevent imprisonment of journalists (France);**

150.23. **Explicitly recognise the right to peaceful assembly by redrafting the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations to remove provisions that criminalise peaceful participation in demonstrations (Ireland);**

150.24. **Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a prohibition on discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (Israel);**

150.25. **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation to prevent all forms of discrimination on the basis of ethnic, religious, sexual orientation or gender identity grounds (Chile);**

150.26. **Take further measures to adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, aiming at eliminating discrimination against women, especially women from minority groups, women with disabilities, migrant women and women asylum seekers (Namibia);**

150.27. **Review relevant legislation to ensure that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is prohibited (Croatia);**

150.28. **Strengthen anti-hate and anti-discrimination legislation in the Turkish Penal Code, specifically article 122, by prohibiting hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation (Canada);**

150.29. **Take effective measures to ensure that the National Human Rights Action Plan fully embraces the recommendations already accepted by Turkey within the framework of the UPR (Kenya);**

150.30. **Adopt measures to prohibit and prevent discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Uruguay);**

150.31. **Promote measures against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including the investigation, and, where appropriate, the sanction of those responsible of acts of discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons (Argentina);**

150.32. **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation and take measures to prevent and combat discrimination on any grounds, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and religion (Brazil);**

150.33. **Deal with cases of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation, both in law and in practice, by publishing disaggregated data on complaints of violence against LGBTI persons (Chile);**

150.34. **Focus on the overall implementation of its non-discriminatory provisions and to extend them to include the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The implementation of overall anti-discrimination policies in Turkey should include all forms of discrimination (Finland);**

150.35. **Intensify its commitment to working constructively with religious and other minorities, to address their grievances, including those of Alevi groups and the status of cemevis (Australia);**

150.36. **Put an end to mandatory religion courses for the "Alevis" (France);**

150.37. **Overcome the continuous lack of legal personality for non-Muslim organized religious communities and to ensure the necessary respect for the beliefs of religious minorities, especially following the introduction of compulsory religious education in Turkish schools (Italy);**

150.38. **Remove restrictions on freedom of expression under article 26 of the Constitution (Canada);**

150.39. **Bring relevant provisions of the Turkish Criminal Code in line with article 19 of the ICCPR, to ensure freedom of expression and to create an environment conducive to free journalism and media (Poland);**

150.40. **Align its legislation and practices with international standards on freedom of expression, particularly regarding the restrictions imposed to freedom of expression in article 26 of the Constitution (Belgium);**

150.41. **Guarantee free access to media without any discrimination to all institutions which require specific accreditation (France);**

150.42. **Bring the Internet Law in line with International and European standards, including case law of the European Court of Human Rights on the rights to freedom of expression and to privacy (Estonia);**

150.43. **Decriminalize defamation and to ensure that the restriction of the right to freedom of expression, also the freedom of peaceful assembly and association, are consistent with international human rights standards (Estonia);**

150.44. **Amend or repeal all policies that restrict the rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and the right to access information and free press (Israel);**

150.45. **Amend the criminal legislation in order to eliminate obstacles to freedom of expression and to freedom of association (Uruguay);**

150.46. **Continue to actively prevent discrimination of minorities through enacting comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including a prohibition on discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity (Denmark);**

150.47. **Implement legislation that increases protection of the rights of persons belonging to minority religious groups, including the status of their places of worship (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

150.48. **Allow children of Greek citizens working in Istanbul to attend the Greek minority schools as fully-fledged students (Greece);**

150.49. **Consider teaching of minority languages in public schools (Slovenia);**

150.50. **Adopt legal and administrative measures aimed at eliminating from the law on Immigration and International Protection the geographical restrictions in the asylum procedure, guaranteeing adequate and fair treatment to persons seeking international protection (Argentina);**

150.51. **Take further efforts to curb discriminatory treatment of non-European refugees and asylum-seekers (India);**

150.52. **Exercise restraint using anti-terrorism legislation in legal procedures against journalists and ensure the proportionality of measures that limit access to the internet (Netherlands).**

151. **The recommendations listed below did not enjoy the support of Turkey:**

151.1. **Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) (Uruguay);**

151.2. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Montenegro); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);**

151.3. **Sign and ratify the ICPPED and recognize the competence of its Committee (France);**

151.4. **Consider the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

151.5. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to the Agreement of Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Cyprus);**

151.6. **Consider ratifying the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education (Rwanda); Consider ratifying the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Latvia);**

151.7. **Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Ghana); Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Portugal);**

151.8. **Ratify the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Armenia);**

151.9. **Ratify Additional Protocols I and II to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 (Cyprus);**

151.10. **Comply with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights concerning violations of human rights in the areas of Cyprus that are under effective control of Turkey (Greece);**

151.11. **Implement without further delay all relevant judgements of the European Court of Human Rights, including those in which grave human rights violations by Turkey have been established in the occupied areas of Cyprus under effective control of Turkey (Cyprus);**

151.12. **Adopt laws recognizing and regulating the right to conscientious objections and ensure that the civilian alternative to military service has no punitive or discriminatory effects (Croatia);**

151.13. **Adopt laws that recognize and guarantee the right to conscientious objection to military service, ensuring that any genuinely civilian alternative is not punitive in length (Germany);**

151.14. **Recognize the right to conscientious objection and to offer a civilian alternative to military service (Slovenia);**

151.15. **Amend or revoke legislation, such as the "Anti-Terror Law" and the "Law on Meetings and Demonstrations", ensuring their provisions cannot be misused (Cyprus);**

151.16. **Take steps in order to enhance and promote gender equality in all walks of life (Cyprus);**

151.17. **Ensure that senior State officials refrain from public statements degrading to women and inconsistent with the Turkish constitution and Islamic values (Egypt);**

151.18. **Abolish all statutory time limits pertaining to the investigation of and prosecution for serious human rights violations (Cyprus);**

151.19. **Allow all religious or belief communities to train their religious instructors in accordance with their own dogma and traditions (Cyprus);**

151.20. **Grant the Ecumenical Patriarchate an adequate legal personality (Greece);**

151.21. **Ensure the protection of all components of the right to freedom of religion or belief, as protected under the ICCPR, including by withdrawing its reservations to article 27 on minority rights (Canada);**

151.22. **Ensure the rights of religious minorities, to enhance access to education in the language of minorities, to withdraw the reservation to article 27 of ICCPR regarding minorities and to ratify the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Austria);**

151.23. **Undertake adequate steps concerning the property claims of persons from Bulgarian identity from eastern Thrace as previously recommended (Bulgaria);**

151.24. **Control its borders, effectively, to prevent the movement of terrorist groups, including those benefiting from transnational organized crime (Syrian Arab Republic);**

151.25. **Genuine and full commitment to international treaties and resolutions combating terrorism, especially Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014) (Syrian Arab Republic);**

151.26. **Refrain from undertaking actions beyond its borders that contribute to violations and abuses of human rights, including through immediate termination of any relevant form of political, military, logistical or financial support in this regard (Egypt);**

151.27. **Put an end to the unilateral economic coercive measures, including blockade against Armenia, which violates human rights including social, economic and cultural rights (Armenia).**

152. **The recommendations in paragraphs 151.5, 151.9, 151.11, 151.15, 151.16, 151.18, and 151.19 did not enjoy the support of Turkey, as Turkey does neither recognize Republic of Cyprus nor accept its claims to represent the whole island.**

153. **The recommendation in paragraph 151.10 did not enjoy the support of Turkey, as Turkey stressed that its presence in the island stems from the rights and obligations within international treaties.**

154. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Turkey was headed by H.E. Mr. Bülent Arınç, Deputy Prime Minister, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Mehmet Ferden Çarıkçı, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Ms. Nesrin Çelik, Undersecretary, Ministry of Family and Social Policies;
- Mr. Aziz Yıldırım, Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Basat Öztürk, Ambassador, Director General of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Adnan Ertem, Director General of Foundations, Prime Ministry;
- Ms. Kıvılcım Kılıç, Deputy Director General for the Council of Europe and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Yavuz Evirgen, Deputy Director General, Foreign Policy Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Mr. Berk Baran, Deputy Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Halil Ibrahim Dizman, Head of Department, Directorate General of Prisons and Detention Houses, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Arif Çangal, Head of Security Department, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Zekai Erdem, Deputy Head of Department, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Olgun Altundaş, Deputy Chief Legal Adviser, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Ahmet Ulutaş, Counsellor (Legal Affairs), Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Ibrahim Hakkı Beyazıt, Judge, Department of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Hüseyin Kök, Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Mr. Umut Deniz, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Hasan Emre Uygun, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Mr. Selçuk Özcan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Ms. Muzaffer Uyav Gültekin, First Secretary, Deputy Directorate General for Council of Europe and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Handan Sayer, Expert, Ministry of Family and Social Policies;
- Ms. Gözde Özkorul, Assistant Expert, Ministry of Interior;

- Mr. Yusuf Izzettin Çelebi, Press Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister;
- Ms. Zeynep Bekdik, Interpreter;
- Ms. Hande Güner, Interpreter.